



CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

E-Bulletin

April 2007

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CPPA, Rao's, and baseball: Júlio Dantas, MPPA '05, and Carlo Ruiz-Giraldo, MPA '04 catch up in Ecuador.

CPPA News



CPPA Graduation

The 2006 CPPA graduation celebration will take place on Thursday, May 24 from 4-6 p.m. in the Garden Room at the Lord Jeffrey Inn. Alumni are encouraged to help celebrate the achievements of our current graduates – please contact Kathy Colón at 413.545.3956 to RSVP.

Faculty News

A Mini-Conference in Hungary

Professors Michael Ash and Krista Harper, currently teaching and conducting research in Hungary, joined Professor Tamara Steger and Dr. Richard Filcak of Central European University to offer a mini-conference on Environmental Justice. The conference was for students in the master's program in Environmental Studies and created a forum for exchange on the relationship between the environment, racism, poverty and development.

Chakravartty Article Available Online

Professor Paula Chakravartty's article, "Governance Without Politics: Civil Society, Development and the Postcolonial State," is currently in the new, publicly accessible, *International Journal of Communication*. The article examines the social terrain behind the institutions of policy-making in the postcolonial contexts, specifically addressing debates between Southern and Northern perspectives in debates over the World Summit on Information Society and the larger parameters of the Information Society. It can be found at <http://ijoc.org/ojs/index.php/ijoc>.

The Humane Metropolis

An article featuring *The Humane Metropolis*, edited by Professor Rutherford H. Platt, was recently published in newspapers across the country. The book examines issues of the urban environment, including health, safety, ecology, and equality through essays and case studies. According to Professor Platt, "In the decades ahead, the emphasis must shift from limiting 'urban sprawl' to making the resulting metropolitan fabric as green habitable, and humane as possible."

Student News

DesAutels Presents Paper

First year student Michele DesAutels will be presenting her paper, "Understanding Women's Entrepreneurship in the Pioneer Valley," at the UMass, Boston conference, Social Inequality and Public Policy. Her research explores themes of motivation and success for women business owners in the Pioneer Valley.

CPPA Students Volunteer at Salvation Army

A group of CPPA students are volunteering with the Holyoke Salvation Army to assist them with their monthly food distribution to low-income families. This came out of a collaboration between the students and the Salvation Army on a project targeting the transportation needs of Holyoke residents.

Introducing Our Students



This month, the profiled student is Beth McBratney, a second year MPPA student. I came to CPPA because I wanted to merge my experiences and skills in international business with my interest in public policy. After receiving a B.A. in History and completing a portion of my studies in London, I entered the business world with the simple goal of working in an international environment. For over six years I worked for an international tour operator where I had the opportunity to hone my business and managerial skills, travel all over the world and live in both Switzerland and Australia. However, I had long wanted to transition to the public sector and use my skills to work for the public interest. Pursuing an MPPA was the first step of that transition.

I was attracted to CPPA because of the interdisciplinary aspect of the program. My interests include international policy, globalization theory, and the mergence of the public and private sector in policy making so it was important for me to find a program that would allow me the flexibility to explore all my interests. CPPA has surpassed my expectations in this area and I feel like I have really been able to customize my course work to match my interests.

I've discovered that another great aspect of the program is the dual emphasis on knowledge and practical experience. For example, in one semester I was able to study globalization theory and European Union policy but also get hands on practical experience working with a local client on a policy issue. This past summer I interned at The Prince's Trust in London. There I was able to use what I'd learned in policy analysis, policy research methods and program evaluation to complete a project that made recommendations for UK-based non-profits to better engage with at-risk youth from religiously and ethnically diverse populations. CPPA's dual emphasis on knowledge and practical experience has made my experience very rewarding. I'll be graduating this semester and transitioning into a career in the public sector. I feel confident that my experience at CPPA has prepared me for a successful career.

Alumni Updates

Jackie Brousseau-Pereira, '00 – Jackie and her husband welcomed the birth of their second daughter, Rita Amelia, on March 6.

Júlio Dantas, '05 - Júlio recently completed a project with the National Network of Kindergartens and Childcare Centers in Chile. He helped write the national plan against sexual abuse and the maltreatment of children in the country's kindergartens and childcare centers, which is being implemented nationwide.

ALUMNI - We'd love to hear from you! Send your updates to info@pubpol.umass.edu or use the online alumni update form located at <http://www.masspolicy.org/alumniupdate>.

Upcoming Events

Public Policy Issues in the Development of Municipal Wireless in the U.S.

Mari Paredes

CPPA Colloquium Series

Place: 620 Thompson Hall

Date: Monday, May 7

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Nanotechnology and Society: the Organization and Policy of Innovation

Various Speakers

STS Spring Workshop

Place: 620 Thompson Hall

Date: Thursday, May 17

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 4 p.m.

For more information on the STS workshop, please contact Karen Pelto at kpelto@pubpol.umass.edu.

Questions or comments about the CPPA E-Bulletin?

Please contact Colleen O'Shaughnessy at colleen@pubpol.umass.edu or 413-577-0239.